

Message Text

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12-31-79

TAGS: PFOR, PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: NATO MILITARY REPRESENTATION AT MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

SUMMARY: AT PERMREPS LUNCH SEPTEMBER 25, THOSE WHO SPOKE WERE NEGATIVE TO IDEA THAT NATO MILITARY COMMITTEE AND SACEUR REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD BE PRESENT DURING MBFR NEGOTIATIONS. UK PERMREP REQUESTED COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF THIS MATTER AND ASKED THAT SYG LUNS SPEAK TO THE MC CHAIRMAN AND SACEUR TO DISCOURAGE SUCH REPRESENTATION. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING SEPTEMBER 25 PERMREPS LUNCH, UK AMBASSADOR PECK SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE AND SACEUR VERY MUCH DESIRED TO HAVE THEIR REPRESENTATIVES PHYSICALLY PRESENT AT THE ACTUAL MBFR MEETINGS WITH THE EAST. IN THE LIKELY EVENT THAT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO SEAT MILITARY COMMITTEE AND SHAPE REPRESENTATIVES APART FROM DELEGATIONS, THE NATO MILITARY DESIRED THAT THEY BE INCLUDED IN THE SEVERAL NATIONAL DELEGATIONS. PECK URGED THAT THE COUNCIL CONSIDER THIS PROBLEM SINCE ANY SUCH REPRESENTATION BY THE NATO MILITARY EVEN IN NATIONAL CONFIDENTIAL

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DELEGATIONS IS LIKELY TO CAUSE GRUMBLING BY THE USSR AND THE EASTERN STATES EVERY BIT AS MUCH AS WHAT ONE COULD HAVE EXPECTED AT THE EARLIER EXPLORATORY TALKS IN VIENNA. HMG WAS AGAINST THE PROPOSAL.

2. NETHERLANDS REP BUWALDA SAID HE EXPECTED THAT THERE MIGHT BE MILITARY ADVISERS IN THE DUTCH NATIONAL DELEGATION, BUT NOTHING MORE THAN THAT.

3. BELGIAN PERMREP DE STAERCKE DECLARED HIMSELF SOLIDLY AGAINST THE PROPOSITION. FRG REP BOSS DECLARED THAT THE FRG WOULD BE EXTREMELY RELUCTANT TO AGREE TO SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT.

4. DE STAERCKE SAID HE BELIEVED THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES REALLY WANTED TO ATTEND PLENARY SESSIONS IN ORDER TO OBTAIN A FIRSTHAND IMPRESSION OF THE ACTUAL DELIBERATIONS AND RENDER MORE ACCURATE AND SPEEDY REPORTS TO SHAPE AND TO THE MILITARY COMMITTEE. DEPUTY SYG PANSAGREED. PECK SAID THAT LUNS AND PANSAGREED SHOULD EXPLAIN TO THE NATO MILITARY THE FACTS OF LIFE: THE REAL NEGOTIATIONS WILL OCCUR IN SMALL GROUPS AND IN THE CORRIDORS, NOT IN THE PLENARY SESSIONS. CANADIAN PERMREP MENZIES AGREED AND COMMENTED THAT THE LESS DOUBLE LINKAGE NATO EMPLOYED THE BETTER.
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